actual execution of projects. The assistance is given in the form of grant-in-aid and is on reimbursement basis after expenditure is incurred by the Maritime States/UTs. The share of the Central Government is restricted to 50% of the expenditure incurred by the State Government/UTs in a particular year subject to an annual ceiling of Rs. 20 lakhs. There is, presently, no proposal under consideration under this scheme.

Road safety norms

1909. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are spreading awareness about safety norms and important legal provisions among people while driving;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have also engaged groups to perform street plays on this year's 'Road Safety Week' theme, 'Avoid over-speeding and over-loading', at schools, residential localities and community halls to spread awareness;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether Government are emphasizing on educating school children, their parents and school authorities about the precautions to be taken with regard to vehicles ferrying students;

(f) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(g) whether some Transport Departments have also brought out brochures for parents containing Do's and Don'ts information about road safety; and

(h) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Enforcement of various provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 including aspect of road safety is the responsibility of the State Governments. However, this Department is undertaking audio-visual campaign on radio and television to propagate road safety. This Department is also distributing publicity material on road safety through Transport Department/Traffic Police of all the States to propagate road safety messages amongst the road

users. Apart from this, in order to improve the drivers skills on roads, a scheme of two-days refresher training course to HMV drivers in unorganized sector is in operation.

(c) and (d) This Department issues directions every year to all the State Governments, NGOs working in the field of Road Safety to celebrate "Road Safety Week" for spreading awareness amongst the road users.

(e) and (f) The enforcement of provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 including aspect of road safety is the responsibility of the State Government. However, on the request of this Ministry, NCERT have included the Road Safety as a subject in the Social Science curriculum for the Class VII. Apart from this, grants-in-aid are being given to various NGOs to spread awareness amongst the road users including the school children through activities such as holding of essay and painting competitions in the schools.

(g) and (h) This Department is not aware whether any Transport Departments of State Governments have brought out any brochure of their own for parents containing Do's and Don'ts. However, spreading the message of Road Safety amongst the road users is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments and they implement their own schemes to propagate road safety message.

Environment friendly vehicles

1910. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of automobile companies are manufacturing environment friendly electric vehicles;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are preparing any proposal for providing subsidies and other facilities to these companies; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) and (b) Manufacturers like Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., Scooters India Ltd. and REVA Electric Car Co (Pvt.) Limited are manufacturing battery operated electric vehicles.